

BUSINESS ARISING DISCUSSION/ACTION:

a. Updates:

- **The Definitions are now on the City Website.**
- **The latest Issues List has been distributed to AWG members**
- **Truncated domes pilot** – Brad Dellebuur advised that truncated domes (Stainless steel buttons) are to be installed at Government Street and Fort Street, all 4 corners. Another planned location is Cook and Haultain (part of bike lane and pedestrian project).

ACTION: Brad will forward the latest work plan to the AWG by the next AWG meeting.

- **Accessible Pedestrian Signal Pilot** – Brad reported that this project is out for design right now.

ACTION: Brad will forward the latest information to the AWG by the next meeting.

- **Accessibility Survey** – Mary (Engagement) was looking at the results and will be providing a summary. The survey is now closed (around 200 responses).

ACTION: Brad will discuss with Mary (in Engagement) about an update regarding the survey for the next AWG meeting.

- b. ATAC Motion:** *The use of mobility scooters and wheelchairs be allowed to travel on specifically designated AAA cycling facilities, on an 18 month trial and study basis; that if necessary, a formal request for changes in provincial legislation or regulations be made by the City to the appropriate provincial authority.*

Steve B. and Chris M. met separately and decided that this proposal would help to address the current safety issue of some wheelchairs speeding along the sidewalk endangering pedestrians.

Brad reiterated that under current legislation, power wheelchair and scooter users are considered pedestrians and are not permitted in bike lanes.

Many power wheelchair and mobility scooter users who were surveyed, indicated that they would not choose to use the bike lane even if it was permitted.

MOTION: The Accessibility Working Group has reviewed this proposal and has no objection to the ATAC motion.

Moved: Linda B

Seconded: Steve B

CARRIED

ACTION: Staff will inform ATAC of the AWG's response to their motion.

c. Interim Terms of Reference (DRAFT #5):

MOTION: The AWG requests the Clerk to include in his recommendations to Council regarding an Overarching Committee Policy, that committee meetings and business be accessible in forum, information and procedures, to make participation in this aspect of civic life accessible to all.

Moved: Robin B.

Seconded: Linda B.

CARRIED

ACTIONS: Robin will augment the approved draft TOR version 5, annotating it to provide AWG's reasoning and rationale for proposing specific terms, within 2 days and committee members will respond within a week of receiving it.

Linda will forward the Interim Terms of Reference with rationale and the above motion to Chris Coates as soon as she receives AWG email approval of Robin's rationale.

d. Next Steps for Issues with "1" designation (urgent safety / health related):

i) List of requested audible signals –

- There are 8 requests from citizens or the CNIB including:
- Gorge / Washington – Victoria boundary – been on AWG list since 2013
- Burnside and Harriett request is within Saanich boundary

ACTION: Brad to pass this request along to Saanich.

- There are actually 7 known requests within Victoria.
- The AWG held a discussion regarding other ongoing traffic signal updates and priorities.
- Staff asked the AWG, if we have to choose or prioritize these signal installations, does AWG want these 7 to come first?
- Councillor Thornton Joe reminded the AWG that staff works from the direction of Council.

MOTION: *AWG recommends to Council that all audible signal installation requests made up to the end of 2016 should be included in the 2018 budget, that the current list of requested audible signals take priority over currently planned audible signal installations, and that funding could come from the Accessibility Reserve Fund if necessary.*

Moved: Linda B.

Seconded: Steve B.

CARRIED

ii) Crossing bike lane to access bus stops

- Linda stood at Pandora and Government and not one bike stopped for her, even though she was standing with her white cane extended into the crossing. She can't hear cyclists coming so she does not know when its safe to cross.
- Staff need to find out specifics and staff will see what they need to do to fix.
- Councillor Thornton-Joe will speak directly with Director of Engineering on all safety issues

- Steve B. brought this to the attention of staff earlier in the year but this concern was not addressed.
 - Signs are 7 feet high, Robin feels this is too high for sight lines for bikers
- ACTION:** A field trip with Linda and Brad to the crossings in question to be scheduled before the next meeting.

iii) *Angle of bus ramps*

- This is a concern at City Hall and the Bay Centre
- Brad reported that this needs to be reviewed by operations crew and public works staff to see if sidewalk modification is a capital cost.

ACTION: Staff will do a site visit by the September meeting and will consult with Steve if necessary.

iv) *City Hall accessibility for those with dog and scent allergies*

- Linda suggested more education for staff and Council members
- Citywide disability training regarding allergies is needed
- Robin has done much research on this topic and has numerous resources.
- Councillor Thornton-Joe advised there has been a practice for quite some time regarding the allowing of dogs in City Hall. One reason is to stop people from leaving their dogs in the car. She feels that we should be discussing a “no pets” policy rather than just a “no pet dogs” policy. She also felt that addressing the “scent” barrier would be the issue to address first.

ACTION: Councillor Thornton Joe will speak with staff about unscented cleaning products and report back to the next meeting.

ACTION: Robin to distribute resources to the AWG members, staff and Council liaisons so we can become more knowledgeable regarding the issue of Human Rights legislation and persons with allergies.

v) *Children with allergies and Crystal Pool activities*

- Recreation Integration Victoria (RIV), helps to integrate children with disabilities into recreation programs in Greater Victoria. In theory this should include children with allergies but does this happen in reality?
- RIV may not be very well known or understood by the public and parents are not necessarily told about RIV’s function by recreation staff
- The Active living guide does not always mention this service. It needs to indicate the resources available to a concerned parent
- Robin – administration of epinephrine by staff at Crystal Pool – they have no training or authority to do this.
- Robin feels its more than just communication, staff needs to be prepared.
- AWG may suggest a motion that says we recommend that this be looked into by staff, but a request for accommodation policy is what Robin would like.
- Awareness training is the first step.
- Paul forwarded “Legal Perspective on Accommodating Environmental Sensitivities” paper to the AWG

http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/sites/default/files/legal_sensitivity_en_1.pdf

ACTION: Robin will put together a working paper.

vi) *Non-allergenic tree plantings*

- Robin described the different ways pollen can be spread. She has shared this with the Parks department.
- plants that attract bees should not be planted around where kids play or people sit.
- Suggestion of Council giving direction to staff on training on issues.
- Councillor Thornton-Joe suggested bringing in a speaker to talk about plantings and allergies

ACTION: Robin will find the name of a speaker (expert) and pass along to Councillor Thornton-Joe.

ACTION: Brad will talk to parks staff regarding Belleville plantings.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Crystal Pool Modification/Renovations

It has come to AWG's attention that the City of Victoria is going to or has already consulted with Recreation Integration Victoria (<http://rivonline.org/>). With regards to Crystal Pool. The AWG questions as to why this issue has not come to the AWG for feedback. The AWG would like to learn what is planned.

ACTION: Brad will follow up and ask why this has not come to the AWG yet. Note: any feedback from the survey on the Crystal Pool should be forwarded for consideration.

ACTION: Linda will add the Crystal Pool upgrade/rebuild to the Issues list as a Priority #2

ACTION: Linda will update the issues list based on the draft July minutes and send to Christine for formatting and distribution.

5. Date of next meeting: September 11, 2017

6. Adjournment: 6:05 pm